

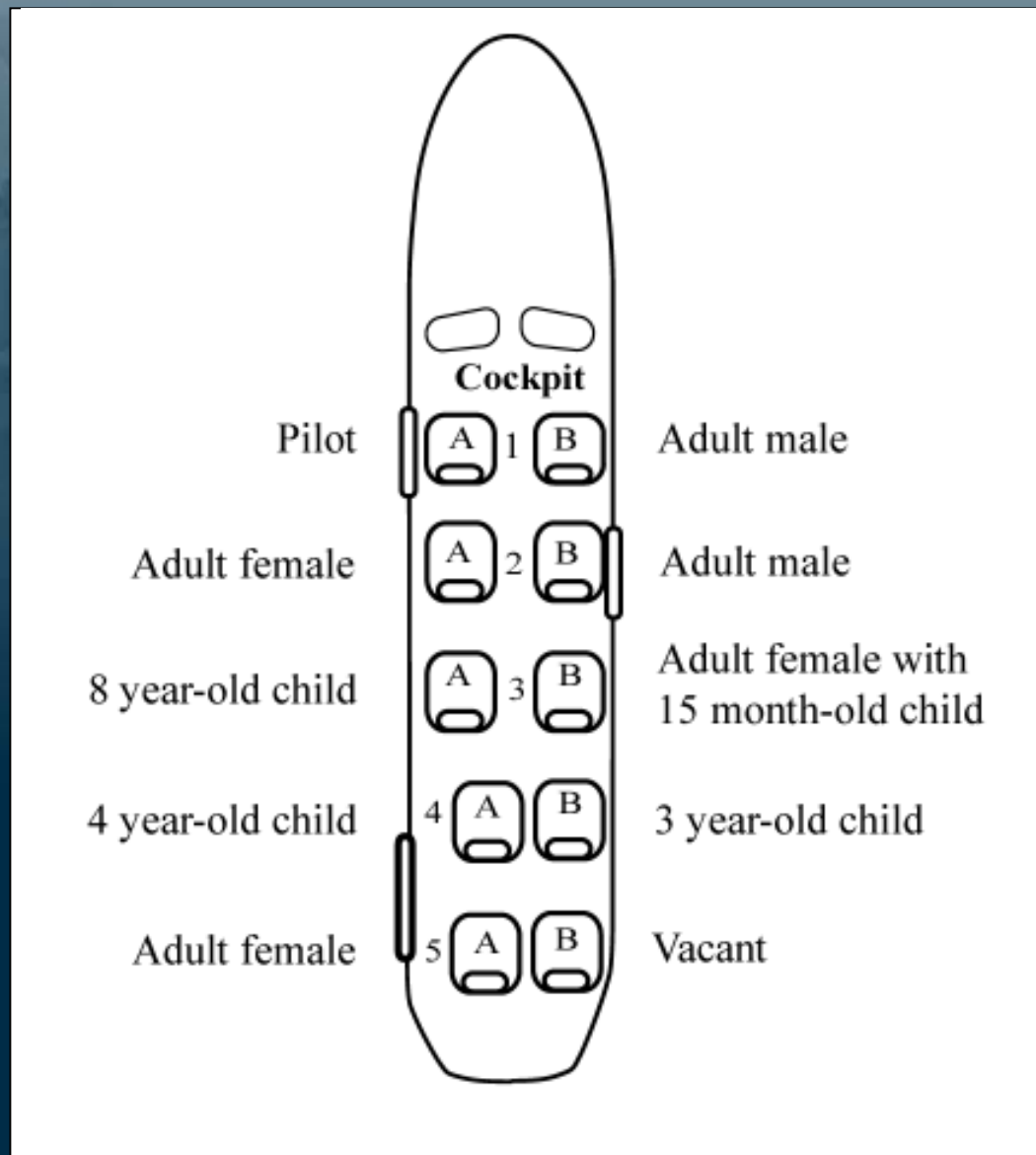


National Transportation Safety Board

Survival Factors Issues

Mark George

Survival Factors Specialist



National Transportation Safety Board

Air Sunshine Flight 527, Cessna 402C, N314AB, Treasure Cay, Bahamas

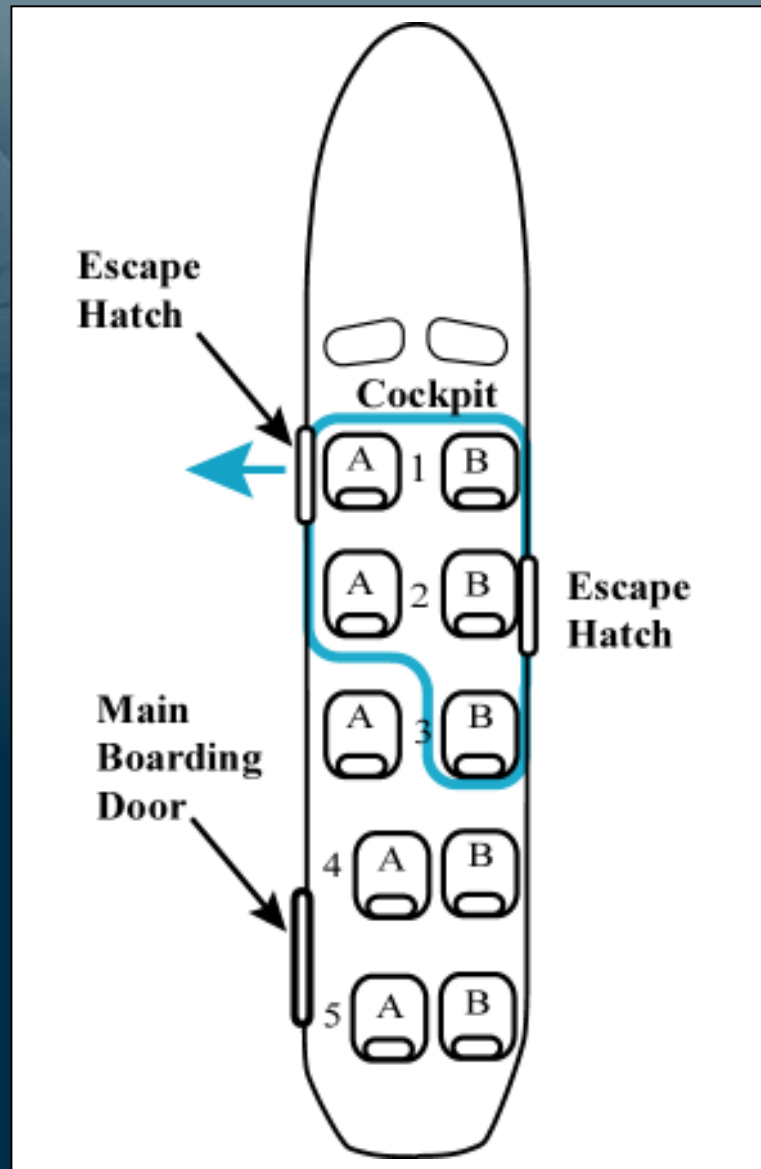
Survival Factors Issues

- At least 7 minutes elapsed between engine failure and water contact.
- Pilot did not tell passengers about the possibility of ditching or to retrieve life vests.
- Passenger in seat 5A retrieved three life vests and put them on children.
- Passenger in seat 3B retrieved life vest and read safety briefing card.
- None of the remaining six life vests were retrieved.



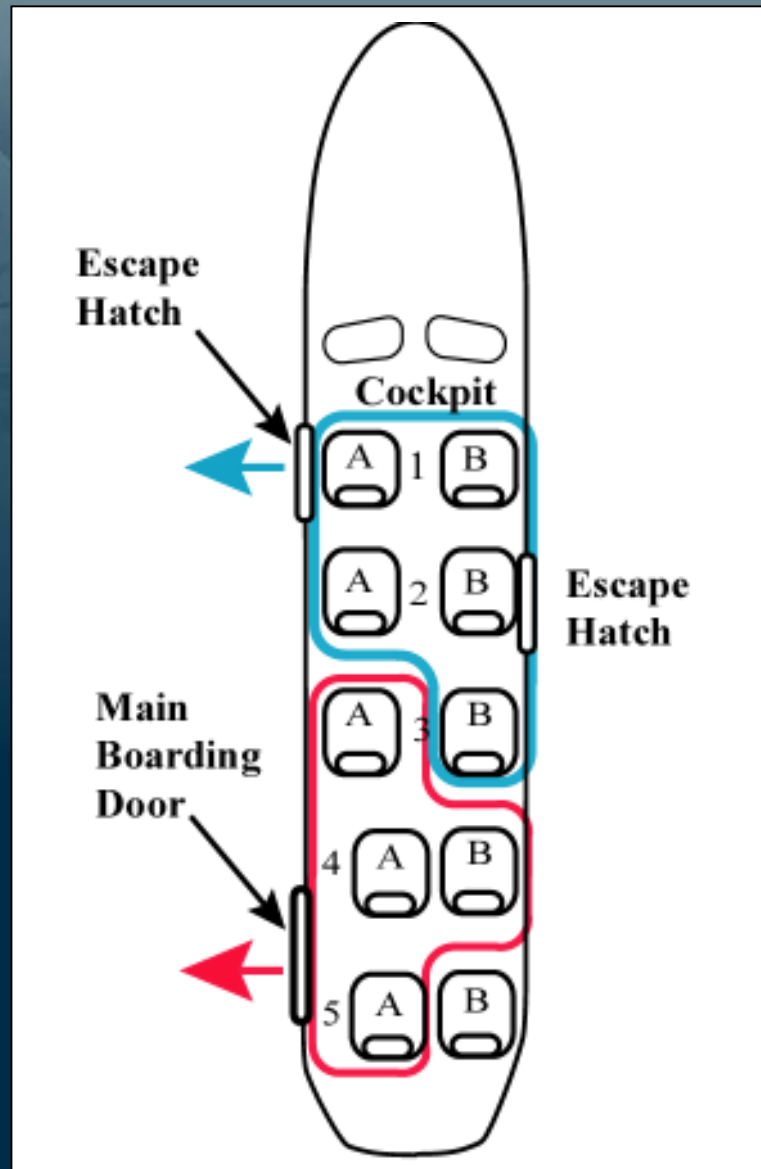
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Survival Factors Issues

- Additional life vests were dropped by other airplanes.
- U.S. Coast Guard dispatched three aircraft to the scene, which arrived about 90 minutes after the accident.
- Air Sunshine General Operations Manual called for an emergency briefing by the pilot prior to the ditching.



Survival Factors Conclusions

- After determining that he was going to ditch the airplane, the pilot failed to conduct an emergency briefing, and this failure contributed to passenger fatalities.
- The passengers would have had sufficient time to retrieve and don their life vests if the pilot had instructed them to do so shortly after the right engine failed.





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